

BRUCE L. BRALEY

1ST DISTRICT, IOWA

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE

1727 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2911
Fax (202) 225-6666

<http://www.house.gov/braley>

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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WATERLOO DISTRICT OFFICE

219 East 4th Street
Waterloo, IA 50703
Phone: (319) 287-3233
Fax: (319) 287-5104

DAVENPORT DISTRICT OFFICE

209 W. 4th St., Suite 104
Davenport, IA 52801
Phone: (563) 323-5988
Fax: (563) 323-5231

DUBUQUE DISTRICT OFFICE

1050 Main Street
Dubuque, IA 52001
Phone: (563) 557-7789
Fax: (563) 557-1324

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear President Obama,

I write today with concerns over the cost of "Operation Odyssey Dawn" in Libya. I echo many of Speaker Boehner's concerns from his letter dated March 23, 2011, that we owe our constituents an accounting of the cost of these operations.

As you're well aware, the current level of federal spending and our national deficit is unsustainable, and as we work to withdraw from our involvement in two other conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, I firmly believe that American taxpayers deserve a full accounting of the additional burden of a third conflict. With that in mind, how much has Operation Odyssey Dawn, and any supporting functions, cost taxpayers to date, and what is the daily cost for continued operations?

I appreciate your statements that U.S. involvement is temporary and that coalition partners will soon be assuming responsibility for the enforcement of the no-fly zone. When do you see that transition happening, and how will this impact costs to American taxpayers after the transfer of responsibility? If this operation requires a longer term commitment, what are the cost projections by month of continued U.S. involvement?

I encourage you to make clear to the American people the costs of this new conflict. I look forward to your responses to my questions, and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Bruce Braley
Member of Congress